Listing of the Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An information partitioning apparatus for partitioning information in an inputted electronic document which does not have predetermined structure information, comprising:

a computer readable medium comprising:

document kind discriminating means for discriminating the kind of the inputted electronic document;

division pattern storing means for storing therein one or plural division patterns defining a predetermined character string, said character string being represented in a division line;

document dividing means for applying the one or plural division patterns, stored in the division pattern storing means, selected based on the result of discrimination by the document kind discriminating means to the inputted electronic document which does not have predetermined structure information to divide the electronic document into plural partial documents;

division pattern producing means for recognizing existence of plural lines including similar character strings in similar positions in the electronic document inputted to produce the division pattern and register the same in the division pattern storing means;

labeling pattern storing means for storing therein plural labeling patterns provided with classification information pieces, said classification information pieces defining a predetermined character string which specifies classification of a respective partial document; and

labeling means for applying the labeling patterns, stored in the labeling pattern storing means, selected based on the result of discrimination by the document kind discriminating means to respective partial documents obtained by the division conducted by the document dividing means, respectively, to provide the classification information pieces to the respective partial documents.

Claim 2 (Original): An information partitioning apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the division pattern storing means stores plural division patterns for an electronic document of one kind.

Claim 3 (Canceled).

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): An information partitioning apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the division pattern storing means stores the one or more division patterns (a searching division pattern) so that, when discrimination has been made to the inputted electronic document, if within a predetermined line from a line coincident with the division pattern (a searching division pattern), there is not a line coincident with another division pattern, the line coincident with the division pattern (a searching division pattern) is defined as the division line.

Claim 5 (Canceled).

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): An information partitioning apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the labeling pattern storing means stores plural labeling patterns for an electronic document of one kind.

Claim 7 (Canceled).

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): An information partitioning apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the labeling pattern includes the same pattern as the division pattern.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): An information partitioning apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising: discrimination pattern storing means for storing therein discrimination patterns for discriminating the kind of the electronic document inputted; and wherein the document kind discriminating means for referencing to references the discrimination patterns stored in the discrimination pattern storing means to discriminate the kind of the inputted electronic document and to manage various kinds of electronic documents.

Claim 10 (Canceled).

Claim 11 (Original): An information partitioning apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the electronic document is a mail magazine.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): An information partitioning method for partitioning information in an inputted electronic document which does not have predetermined structure information, comprising:

a document kind discriminating step of discriminating the kind of the inputted electronic document;

a document dividing step of applying one or plural division patterns defining a predetermined character string sel ected based on the result of discrimination by the document kind discrimination step, said character string being expressed in a division line to the inputted electronic document which does not have predetermined structure information to divide the electronic document to into plural partial documents;

division pattern producing step of recognizing existence plural lines including similar character strings at similar positions in the electronic document inputted to produce the division pattern and register the same; and

a labeling step of applying labeling patterns, selected based on the result of discrimination by the document kind discrimination step and provided with classification information pieces, said classification information pieces defining a predetermined character string which specifies classification to the respective partial documents obtained by the division conducted in the document dividing step by providing the classification information pieces to the respective partial documents.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): An information partitioning method according to claim 12, wherein, when discrimination has been made to the inputted electronic document, a line coincident with the division pattern (a searching division pattern) is defined as the

division line if within a predetermined line from a line coincident with a division pattern (a searching division pattern), there is not a line coincident with another division pattern.

Claims 14-16 (Canceled).

Claim 17 (Original): An information partitioning method according to claim 12, wherein the electronic document is a mail magazine.

Claim 18 (Canceled).

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): A computer readable medium in which an information partitioning program has been recorded, the information partitioning program including the information partitioning method according to claim 12, which has been described with a code and is to be executed by a computer.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): An information partitioning apparatus for partitioning information in an inputted electronic document which does not have predetermined structure information, comprising:

a computer readable medium comprising:

document kind discriminating means for discriminating the kind of the inputted electronic document;

division pattern storing means for storing therein one or plural division patterns defining a predetermined character string, character string being represented in a division

line;

document dividing means for applying the one or plural division patterns, stored in the division pattern storing means, selected based on the result of discrimination by the document kind discriminating means to the inputted electronic document which does not have predetermined structure information to divide the electronic document into plural partial documents;

discrimination pattern storing means for storing therein discrimination patterns for discriminating the kind of the electronic document inputted; and

division pattern producing means for recognizing existence of plural lines including similar character strings in similar positions in the electronic document inputted to produce the division pattern and register the same in the division pattern storing means wherein the document kind discriminating means for referencing to references the discrimination patterns stored in the discrimination pattern storing means to discriminate the kind of the inputted electronic document and to manage various kinds of electronic documents.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): An information partitioning method for partitioning information in an inputted electronic document which does not have predetermined structure information, comprising:

a document kind discriminating step of discriminating the kind of the inputted electronic document;

a document dividing step of applying one or plural division patterns defining a predetermined character string selected based on the result of discrimination by the

document kind discrimination step, said character string being expressed in a division line to the inputted electronic document which does not have predetermined structure information to divide the electronic document to plural partial documents;

division pattern producing step of recognizing existence plural lines including similar character strings at similar positions in the electronic document inputted to produce the division pattern and register the same,

~~a document kind discriminating step of discriminating the kind of the electronic document inputted,~~ wherein

the document dividing step performs dividing to partial documents using the discriminated division patterns for document kind[[,]]; and

a labeling step provides classification information pieces to respective partial documents using discriminated labeling patterns for the document kind, selected based on the result of discrimination by the document kind discrimination step, in order to manage various kinds of electronic documents.